

# gay community news

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THE GAY WEEKLY 50¢



**MASS. CANDIDATES SURVEYED**  
**DEFENSE DEPT. CHANGES POLICY**  
**MARCH TO TAKE BACK THE NIGHT**



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## Homosexuals Will Still be Discharged Defense Dept. Policy Changes on Status of Gays

By Philip Shehadi

WASHINGTON, DC — According to a new U.S. Defense Department policy, men and women discharged from the Armed Forces for their homosexuality can no longer be automatically denied an Honorable Discharge. For a temporary period ending Jan. 1, 1980, homosexual veterans may apply to military review boards to upgrade their discharge status, and gays currently in the service will normally receive honorable discharges assuming their service record warrants one.

### A Year Old Policy

The policy change dates from Jan. 20, 1978 but has only recently received publicity. A memorandum explaining the new policy, issued at that time by Navy Secretary Graham Claytor, stated that "Homosexuals normally will not be treated as a distinct category for purposes of discharge characterization. The character of the discharge should reflect the nature of the service. No special consideration should be given to an individual's status as a homosexual, except to the extent that it affects the performance of his duties."

Homosexuality is said to "affect the

performance of one's duties" when it is expressed in acts which either involve assault or coercion or involve people under the age of 16.

Under these circumstances a less than honorable discharge, in some cases involving trial by court martial and punitive sentences, remains the rule.

### Gays Still To Be Discharged

If the new policy bans discrimination against homosexuals in determining discharge status, it still requires the discharge itself, on the grounds that "The presence of such a member [a gay person] in a military environment seriously impairs combat readiness

According to Colin Williams and Martin Weinberg in their book *Homosexuals and The Military*, between 2000 and 3000 gays are discharged each year from the four branches of the Armed Force. Until now they automatically received less than honorable discharges which can, among other things, seriously hinder a veteran's ability to find employment.

Veterans seeking to apply for discharge review under the new policy may obtain information from veteran counseling centers or the Veterans Education Project, Dupont Circle Bldg., Suite 610, 1346 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

## 2000 Protest Violence Against Women

## Women 'Reclaim the Night' in Boston March

By Nancy Wechsler

BOSTON — More than 2000 women marched through the streets of Boston on the night of Aug. 26 to protest violence against women and to "reclaim the night." Women came from all over New England including Western Massachusetts, the Merrimack Valley, Rhode Island and the Boston Metropolitan area. Three small buses of elderly women followed the march.

Marching behind the lead banner "Women Unite, Reclaim the Night," women raised their fists in anger and in solidarity, yelled and chanted slogans including "Power to the women, power to the women right on," "No more Rape," "Yes means yes, and no means no, however we dress, wherever we go."

### Take Back the Night

The march and rally was organized by the Coalition to Take Back the Night, made up of groups working around the issue of violence against women. Demands of the coalition included women-run community shelters for women, community action against violence, medicaid funding for abortions, access to self-defense classes, decriminalization of prostitution, more



Betsy Smith

Some two thousand women marched through Boston to "take back the night."

street lighting, and the right of women to control their own bodies.

The demonstration proceeded from Kenmore Square through the Fens, South End, winding its way to Copley Plaza. Speaking for many others who were at the march, Connie Breece, one of the organizers and a member of the

Coalition to Stop Institutional Violence, told GCN, "The crowd was very together, very high energy, very in tune with one another. There was a lot of energy. This is the beginning of new work and a recognition of work that has been going on all along around violence against women. People didn't

realize there were so many groups involved with this work. The demonstration achieved one of its goals by having a unifying effect on the movement."

### Power and Strength

Breece talked about what the march meant to many of the women. "As we were marching a few women would ask why we weren't going through more populated places, why we were marching through desolated areas. The reason for this was to symbolize something. The march wasn't only for the people on the sidewalks, the jeering men, it was also for us. It was our march to feel our power and strength; to give us a vision of some future time when we could walk through the park alone, without fear. The march gave us a sense of our own collective strength, though it also reminded us that we have a lot of organizing to do."

There were some incidents of harassment along the march route. At one point a man climbed on top of a car and took off his pants and wiggled his body at the demonstrators. Other men called the women names. The crowd responded to such incidents by chanting and singing louder than before.

*Continued on Page 6*

## Hundreds Protest Briggs Initiative After Attempt to Oust Teacher

HEALDSBURG, CA — On Thursday, Aug. 17, 300 protesters gathered in Healdsburg, California to demonstrate against Proposition 6 (The Briggs Initiative). SCRAP 6 (Sonoma County Residents Against Proposition 6) found out one day prior to the demonstration that Sen. John Briggs, sponsor of the anti-gay, anti-union legislation, planned to kick off his campaign in Healdsburg.

Briggs was invited to kick off his campaign by the town Board of Education which had recently attempted to fire a 4th grade teacher, Larry Berner, who had written a letter to the Board stating his opposition to Proposition 6. The Board of Education, composed of four men and one woman (who has since resigned) decided to fire Larry Berner for his stand on Proposition 6.

The Board was unsuccessful in its attempt because Berner had neither "misconduct himself" in the

classroom nor had any record of arrest or "public immorality." The media picked up on the action and it became widely known that Berner is gay. Fifteen parents immediately withdrew their children from the school.

Using this as an excuse, the school's superintendent asked Berner to resign because "he had caused the parents to withdraw their children which threatened the school's funding." The vast majority of parents mobilized to support Berner by threatening to withdraw all their children from the school if the superintendent didn't stop action. The case is now pending in the courts.

SCRAP 6 managed to mobilize these parents and also members of OCABI (Orange County Against the Briggs Initiative) EBCABI (East Bay Committee Against the Briggs Initiative) BACABI (Bay Area Committee Against the Briggs Initiative), Marin County No On 6, and the Mendocino

### County Against the Briggs Initiative.

The demonstrators met at St. John's Parish in Healdsburg where they were shuttled to the Municipal Golf Club, the site of the Board of Education's meeting. Holding placards, two hundred men, women and children lined the 1/4 mile driveway to the golf club house as residents of Healdsburg drove to the meeting. Seventy other protesters managed to secure seats inside the club house itself.

As the meeting progressed inside, anti-Briggs protestors attempted to raise questions and issues concerning the Proposition, but Briggs and the facilitator of the meeting would only allow residents of Healdsburg to speak.

One woman, whose son had had Berner as a teacher this year, insisted that Berner was an excellent teacher and she hoped that her son would be in his class again in the fall. Briggs replied, "Yeah, you might want Berner

to teach your son in school, but would you let your son go on a camping trip with him?"

Two Chicano women residents of Healdsburg made statements to the effect that as Chicanos they knew what discrimination was all about and had no intention of letting their children "grow up to be bigots."

The opposition continued to base its arguments on issues such as that raised by one woman. She maintained that she noticed that the children who had been in Berner's class this past year "wiggled and minced" their way to the school bus.

Outside, the demonstrators gathered for a rally, sing-in, and candle light march from the municipal golf club to St. John's Parish.

SCRAP 6 plans a number of workshops and forums on the Briggs Initiative and it is currently engaged in a house-to-house educational campaign.

# NEWS NOTES

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"We greet families who are the domestic nctuary of the church. May they [families] be de-nded fram the destructiveness attitudes of sheer pleasure-seeking which snuffs out life" — Pope John Paul I in his first homily in the Sistine Chapel, Aug. 27, 1978.

## COMMONWOMAN PUBLISHING

BURLINGTON, VT — Commonwoman, "a Vermont publication of news, culture and dialogue fram a woman's perspective," has just recently begun publication. Subscriptians are \$3.00/6 issues, for individuals; \$10.00/6 issues, for institutions; free ta wamen prisoners. Write, Commonwoman, Inc., Box 242, Winaaski, Vt. 05404 or call (802) 655-1657.

The Commonwoman Collective "grew out of a shared vision and a need ta have a publication by and for wamen in Vermont. We are a collective of 12 feminists with diverse lifestyles and backgrounds. We envision Commonwoman as a forum for feminists separated by class, politics, economics, theology, and sexual preference. Commonwoman is also an exploration and celebration of our similarities."

The collective will consider for publication all articles submitted by women. They wish to provide space for dialogue and especially encourage letters and articles in response to published articles.

## TEXAS GAY POLITICS

AUSTIN, TX — The Texas Gay Task Force recently held a meeting here of all lesbian and gay delegates and alternates to the State Democratic Convention to be held Sept. 15 and 16. The meeting was called "to identify our strength and to determine a plan for the September convention."

According to Task Force organizers, the meeting attracted 50 people. The group plans participation in all levels of convention activities. Organizers plan to seek out and work with caucuses which are supporters of all human and civil rights.

This year's State Democratic Convention in Texas is the first for openly gay and lesbian participation. The group at this year's convention will be called Lesbian/Gay Democrats of Texas.

## GAY SENATE CANDIDATE

BALTIMORE — For the first time in Maryland's history, there is an openly gay candidate for the State Senate. Dana S. Rethemeyer is a Democrat running in the state's 39th Legislative District.

Rethemeyer is a member and past president of the Baltimore Gay Alliance, a member of the Gay Community Center of Baltimore and a member of Maryland's Gay Rights' Coalition. He has lobbied extensively in Annapolis for passage of a state gay rights bill.

The 39th Legislative District includes central Baltimore City — Bolton Hill, Mt. Vernon Place and Charles Village. The date of the primary for the Democratic nomination in the district is Tuesday, Sept. 12. Contributions may be sent to Dana Rethemeyer for State Senate Fund, 928 N. Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21201.

## ESPLANADE ARREST

BOSTON — A 34-year old Salisbury man was arrested by plainclothes MDC police officers on the Charles River Esplanade on August 18, charged with "open and gross lewdness" and assault and battery on a police officer. Lt. Thomas Keough told GCN that the defendant "pulled the cop's honker." Keough would not discuss other circumstances of the arrest or reveal the identity of the arresting officer, contrary to MDC police regulations.

## NO IN HAWAII

HONOLULU — A provision protecting gay rights was killed last week by a Constitutional Convention Committee. The Committee on Bill of Rights, Suffrage and Elections rejected revised language for the constitution that would have banned discrimination on the basis of "sexual orientation." Several legislators said they favored the intent of the new language but felt the Legislature should deal with the sensitive issues. Others believed that if the constitutional amendment is placed on the ballot, the public will reject it and harden its views on homosexuality.

## FUNDRAISER FOR PARENTS

BOSTON — Fundraising activities are beginning in support of the newly formed Lesbian and Gay Parents Project (LGPP). The project began this past summer and is under the direction of the Anti-Sexist Committee of the National Lawyers Guild.

The LGPP is a resource, education and referral center for lesbian mothers and gay fathers struggling with custody, visitation and related issues. The collective consists of fourteen lesbians and gay men. They have planned a benefit at Samewhere on Franklin St. in Boston for Sunday, Sept. 10 at 3 p.m. The proceeds will be used to rent office space and to pay initial costs.

There will be live entertainment, dancing, food, music and a raffle at the benefit. A \$3 donation is being asked. Tickets are available at Red Boak, New Wards, and the Arlington St. Church Office. Childcare will be provided. For further information call 524-3711.

## OKLAHOMA GOV: NOT GAY

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK — The governor of this state has heatedly denied an allegation that he is a homosexual. Gov. David Boren, who recently opened a Democratic runoff primary campaign for the U.S. Senate, swore on a Bible that he is neither homosexual nor bisexual.

In a recent primary campaign, which led to the runoff between Boren and Rep. Ed Edmondson, Boren was accused of being gay by another candidate.

Boren, who called the allegation "utterly ridiculous," went before a news conference last week to deny the charge. Placing his hand on the Bible, Boren said, "I, David Boren, being of lawful age and upon my oath, do swear and state that I know what homosexuals and bisexuals are."

"I further swear that I am not homosexual or a bisexual. I further swear that I have never been a homosexual or a bisexual. And I further swear that I have never engaged in any homosexual or bisexual activities nor do I approve of or condone them."

## WOMEN'S HEALTH WEEKEND

CAMBRIDGE, MA — Women's Community Health Center is sponsoring its Fifth Annual Women's Health Weekend to be held Sept. 23 and 24 at the YWCA in Cambridge. The weekend is designed to provide a chance for all women to come together to share basic health information and experiences, discuss and learn about the politics of women's health care, and to formulate both personal and collective strategies for change in the health care system.

There will be workshops concerning many aspects of women's health care including self help, birth control, childbirth, parenting, nutrition, abortion, lesbian health care, population control, sterilization abuse, specific health care needs of black and Third World women, health concerns for older women, and the medical establishment.

If you are interested in either working on or coming to the weekend, or want further information, call 547-2302.

## NO SUPER-MACHO COPS

BALTIMORE, MD — Police cadets and police officers in Howard County are being instructed to be wary of what a Police Dept. administrator calls the super-macho "Wyatt Earp-John Wayne syndrome."

The syndrome is typified, says county police administrator Sheldon F. Greenberg, by the "person who comes into the police force and makes a show about toting a gun and throwing his weight around. He acts super-macho."

The Wyatt Earp-John Wayne syndrome "poses an image problem for the department. It throws fear into the public and causes community relations problems," Greenberg said.

## GAY MAN BEATEN

BOSTON — Three men have been charged with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon in the beating of a 20 year old gay man. Boston police report that the three attacked the Roslindale man on Wednesday, Aug. 23, at 3:30 a.m., outside a gay disco in Copley Square. The victim was beaten about the face with a baseball bat.

Those arrested were identified as John Mulligan, Charles Bruno and Frederick Goodwin, all of Arlington, ages 20, 22, and 21, respectively.

The victim of the assault is expected to lose the sight in at least one of his eyes, according to sources.

## SPIRIT OF HOUSTON

WASHINGTON D.C. — The National Advisory Committee for Women has recently published a 308 page, official report of "how far behind American Women are in their goal of equality." The report, entitled *The Spirit of Houston*, was submitted to President Carter and Congress with a plea for "prompt and positive action." The document includes a chronology of American women's history, narrative descriptions by author Caroline Bird of the Houston conference, photographs by women photographers as well as the text of the 26-plank National Plan of Action adapted by the federally-funded conference. Copies of *The Spirit of Houston* are on sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

## ANTI-BRIGGS ACTIVITY

SAN FRANCISCO — Gay and lesbian workers from several gay and labor organizations are calling a "Workers Conference Against the Briggs Initiative" for Sept. 9 and 10 in this city. The conference is designed for gay and non-gay, union and non-union workers from throughout California to meet and discuss fighting the proposal filed by State Sen. John Briggs. The Briggs Initiative, or Proposition 6, provides for the filing of dismissal charges against gay school workers.

For further information on the Workers Conference, contact (415) 552-5245 or (415) 431-3099. For information on housing and childcare, write Conference, 378 Pennsylvania St., San Francisco, CA 94107.

## AWARD TO MALCOLM BOYD

MINNEAPOLIS — Integrity, the organization of gay Episcopalians, presented the 1978 Integrity award to Episcopal priest, civil rights activist, and author Malcolm Boyd during a banquet in the Curtis Hotel Aug. 19.

Accepting the award, Boyd read several prayers in the style of his bestselling *Are You Running With Me, Jesus?*. One dealt with Boyd and his lover, another with a closeted Episcopalian bishop, and a third about gay sexuality concluded, "God, thank you for making me gay!"

"A gay postulant or seminarian can never be asked to tell a lie for Christ — certainly not by the church!" Boyd said. His autobiography, *Take Off the Masks*, was published this year.

## SUPPORT FCC PROPOSAL

NEW YORK — The National Gay Task Force (NGTF) has issued a request to individuals and groups throughout the gay and non-gay communities to write to the Federal Communications Commission in support of a "Notice of Proposed for Rule-making" issued on August 8. The FCC proposal came in response to a petition submitted by NGTF and 143 lesbian and gay organizations.

The FCC is proposing that leaders of all significant community groups in a broadcast area, including leaders of the lesbian and gay community, must be interviewed by local broadcasters to meet their community ascertainment requirements.

The proposed FCC policy would require that "broadcasters have a responsibility to insure that all significant elements or institutions which are readily accessible within their community of license, whether or not they are one of the nineteen categories on the Checklist, are ascertained."

NGTF urges everyone to write in support of the proposal, referring to BC Docket No. 78-237. Address comments to Secretary, FCC, 1919 "M" St. NW, Washington, DC 20554. The deadline for receipt of comments is Oct. 16.

## MURDER IN WINTHROP

WINTHROP, MA — State and Winthrop police are investigating the murder of a 23-year old gay man found beaten to death in his Cliff Avenue apartment at 10:00 p.m. on Aug. 28. Gilbert Jackson was found lying on the floor with his hands tied in front of him and his mouth gagged.

Although some jewelry was reported missing from the apartment, police have theorized that Jackson, an interior decorator and former Emerson College student, knew his assailant because there was no sign of forced entry. The victim had been beaten numerous times in the head with a blunt instrument, according to police reports, and strangled. He may have been dead for 24 hours before being discovered by his brother.

Persons with information about Jackson or the incident have been urged to contact Winthrop Police Chief David Rice at 846-1212.

## Gays Segregated in D.C. Jail Without Hearing

# Prisoners Win a Round in Jail Segregation Case

By Jim Marko

WASHINGTON, DC — Four gay prisoners who filed a class action suit protesting segregation in special areas at the District of Columbia Jail have won their first round in court. The U.S. District Court of Appeals has reversed a 1974 decision which threw out the suit.

In that initial decision, Judge Joseph C. Waddy ruled that the alleged treatment of prisoners placed in "second-class" facilities was a controversy involving less than \$10,000 and was not, therefore, properly a federal case.

### A Plaintiff's Rights

The appeals court decision, however, found that "it is far from a legal certainty that the plaintiffs' rights are

worth less than \$10,000." Chief Judge David L. Bazelon ruled that the case will now be assigned to another U.S. District Court judge for a hearing on the merits of the complaint.

The initial suit, which was filed by Anthony A. Smith and three other prisoners, challenged the constitutionality of segregating alleged or confessed gays in the District jail without a hearing.

### Consequences of Segregation

The suit claimed "several consequences follow the decision to place an alleged homosexual in administrative segregation: Placement in an overcrowded and vermin-infested cell . . . ineligibility for work detail (precluding both the accumulation of 'good time'

which would shorten the period of confinement and the opportunity to earn wages while incarcerated); denial of access to the library and law library; restricted visiting rights; inferior medical treatment; and denial of a variety of other privileges available to the general inmate population."

According to a report in *The Washington Star*, the District jail policy of segregating gay prisoners was based on a desire to protect the gay men from attack by other inmates. The paper quoted a city official, "familiar with prison procedure," who said that the old jail, replaced two years ago by a new facility, did have some second-rate cells which were sometimes used to house gays.

### The Court's Opinion

Associate Judge George MacKinnon, concurring with the decision of appeals court Chief Judge Bazelon, wrote, "It would hardly seem doubtful that there is a need for segregating 'confessed homosexuals' from other prisoners. In fact, if the cases that have reached the court are any criterion, more provable damage might result if the homosexuals were not segregated."

"But there is room for complaining by the 'accused . . . homosexuals' that they were not proven homosexuals and should not have been segregated absent reasonable proof thereof," MacKinnon added. "Also, once segregated they are entitled to satisfactory conditions of confinement."

## U.S. Civil Rights

# Commission Will Include Gay Issues in New Survey

WASHINGTON, DC — For the first time in its history, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is conducting a survey of the national civil rights community. The survey is an attempt to identify the issues expected to be critically important during the next ten years.

Also, for the first time, the Commission has decided to include issues involving discrimination against gay people in the survey material and has included leaders of the national gay community among those to be questioned.

Last year, the National Gay Task Force received a pledge from the five

Commissioners that the survey would include leaders in the gay community. NGTF announced that inclusion of gay-related issues "offers demonstration of the Commission's recent willingness to involve itself in this area — a willingness previously demonstrated by its decision to include anti-gay discrimination in its investigation of civil rights in the administration of justice area."

Survey questions will not be limited to that single area of administration, and gay-related questions on the survey will be included in the sections on employment, housing and political participation.

There will be no gay-related queries in such areas as education, health, public accommodations and the media, but, according to NGTF, space was provided for mention of additional topics under each category.

A second round of the survey will include subjects added by respondents, who will then be asked to rank them in order of critical importance.

According to Ester Smith, project director for Contract Research Corp., which is conducting the survey, the questionnaire will be sent to 500 individuals in the national civil rights field. Those contacted will include federal, state and local officials, academic re-

searchers, representatives of "special interest" groups and chairpersons of the various State Advisory Commissions.

In compiling the list, Smith said an attempt was made to include nearly equal numbers of representatives from each of the various minority and women's groups, with only slight "weighting" to reflect the incidence of such groups in the population. The initial questions on the survey, Smith said, were arrived at through interviews with 25 nationally prominent leaders in the civil rights field.

## Gay Activist and Anita Bryant Meet by Accident in Dallas Restaurant

By Tony Domenick

DALLAS, TX — Reverend Troy Perry, founder of the Metropolitan Community Church, visited briefly with Anita Bryant, after accidentally meeting her in the dining room at the Hyatt-Regency Hotel in Dallas' Union Square.

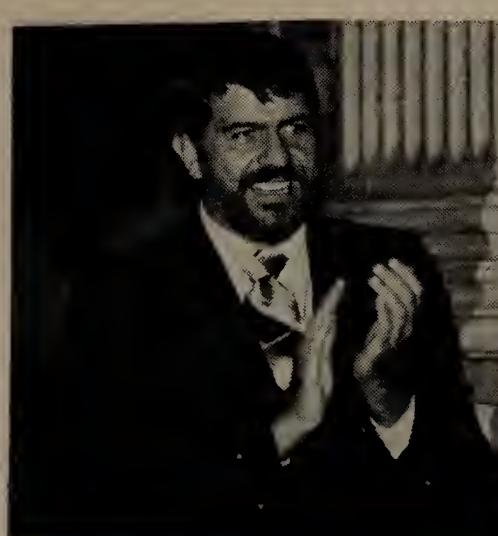
At the meeting, which was unplanned, Perry and Bryant informally talked about the possibility of an official conference with media coverage where their conflicting views could be expressed.

Frank Zerilli, press spokesperson for Perry, told GCN, "Our office has sent Bryant a letter to her home address in Miami requesting a date to meet, but

no definite date for an official meeting has been scheduled as of yet."

Perry was in Texas raising funds to help fight the anti-gay teacher Briggs Initiative, Proposition 6. He made reservations for dinner one day before the meeting, and received an anonymous phone call two hours before he was to leave for the hotel informing him that Bryant would be having dinner at the same time. Bryant came to receive an award from the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

A hotel guest informed Perry that Bryant and her party had arrived. Perry, who was with Reverend Don Eastman, the pastor of the local M.C.C., walked to the Bryant table.



Michael Thompson

Rev. Troy Perry

Perry said, "When Reverend Eastman and I arrived, the guests at the Bryant table were busy talking. After about 30 seconds, a gentleman, who turned out to be the Commander for the Texas V.F.W., told Ms. Bryant someone was standing behind her who wanted to say 'hello.'

He added, "I'm sure she didn't know who I was, but probably thought I was an admirer of hers. She turned around smiling. I introduced myself and the smile froze into place."

Perry described the conversation which followed as cordial, but cautious on both sides. The meeting lasted for about five minutes.

## Boston Globe Answers Criticism for Running 'Clean Up America' Ad

BOSTON — *The Boston Globe* has answered criticism directed against it for the publication of an advertisement for Dr. Jerry Falwell's "Clean Up America" campaign. A GCN reader expressed his "disappointment" that the newspaper would run an advertisement for the organization in the July 30 issue of the magazine "The New Englander."

The advertisement is in the form of a survey which asks readers to cast their vote to "Clean Up America." There are three questions asked in the printed poll: "Do you approve of known practicing homosexuals teaching in public schools?" "Do you approve of the present laws legalizing abortion-on-demand?" "Do you approve of the open display of pornographic materials on newsstands, TV, and movies?"

In return for answering the questions, those surveyed will receive two "Jesus First" lapel pins. "The pin sweeping across our nation as a symbol of Americans putting 'Jesus First' in their lives."

The ad also informs people of a planned television special of "Jerry Falwell and the Old Time Gospel Hour" with a guest appearance by Anita Bryant.

In his letter to *The Boston Globe* Sunday Managing Editor Timothy Leland, the GCN reader called the advertisement, "Prejudiced, slanted, [and] degrading [in] nature . . ."

The letter went on to ask Leland if the advertisement would have been accepted if the questions asked were "Would you allow admitted Jews to teach in the public schools?" or

"Would you be willing to allow 'Negroes' in the front of the bus?"

In his response, the *Globe's* Leland stated that the comments in the letter "give me serious pause."

Leland wrote, "For as long as newspapers have existed, the approval and rejection of advertising copy has been an extremely troublesome and perplexing area . . . The problem is not, I can assure you, one of revenue, at least at the *Globe*. No the problem is not one of advertising lineage. What's at stake in this regard is much more complicated."

"What we're really talking about here is a First Amendment, free press issue. More specifically, the question is this: To what degree should newspapers censor the free exchange of views represented in paid

advertisements, however despicable and out of date those views might be?"

Leland also wrote that newspaper management is "not obligated" to publish any and all advertisements, however offensive. "In this particular instance, as you have pointed out, I think the Anita Bryant advertisement is very close to that line ['offensive advertisements']".

"I wouldn't quibble with #2 or #3, but the question #1 [in the advertisement] is out of line, just like the two hypothetical questions you raise in your letter. If nothing else, you can be certain that your correspondence will result in further discussion and soul-searching on this matter among department heads at the *Globe*, and I certainly want to thank you for bringing it to our attention," Leland wrote.

# COMMUNITY VOICES

## An Open Letter to Suffolk County DA Byrne

Dear Mr. Byrne:

I recently had the opportunity to read an eight-page brochure promoting your re-election campaign. While it was thoughtful of your supporters to deliver the booklet to my doorstep, I regret that I am unable to promise you my vote. You are entitled to know why.

Frankly, I do not believe that you have prevented or retarded crime in Suffolk County. Ask anyone in the South End or Roxbury or Charlestown whether they feel any safer now that your "Major Violators Program" is in operation. Crime statistics are misleading, and I need not remind you of the old adage that figures don't lie but liars can figure.

This is not true in other counties in Massachusetts. In Middlesex County, D.A. John Droney, despite his (admittedly) poor health and advanced age, has been diligent in going after the state's Department of Corporations and Taxation for tax delinquents. (Those people are criminals in my book.) In adjacent Norfolk County, D.A. Bill Delahunt has mounted a superb effort against organized crime and its involvement with illegal gun and drug traffic.

While you have been obsessed with an imaginary "sex ring" in Revere, it took the Attorney General's office to prosecute an *arson* ring — slumlords who burned their tenants for profit — in Boston's Fenway neighborhood. While you were busy chasing prostitutes out of Combat Zone bars, it took the WBZ "Eye Team" to catch dozens of Boston cops drinking while on duty in Brighton. What is this obsession of yours with other people's sex lives?

On Page 7 of your brochure, it says that Garrett Byrne "is winning his war against sex criminals" and goes on to describe how a school bus driver is now serving 22 life sentences for raping 8-12 year old boys. What you failed to state is that this defendant had a long, long record for serious offenses, and some of those life sentences were mandatory. In any case, while your office may have won that conviction, you are misleading the public by implying that you sentenced the defendant as well. Judges, not prosecutors, do the sentencing.

You are proud of your convictions, although you understandably don't mention your failures. Let's look at three of them: Ella Ellison was framed on a "felony murder" rap which your office prosecuted. Dr. Kenneth Edelin was the scapegoat for Catholic politicians when he faced a manslaughter charge for performing an abortion. And John Scagliotti was entrapped by a plainclothes vice cop in a theatre. You prosecuted each one of those cases, and, as is customary (90% by national standards) in jury trials, each person was convicted.

### dread of phillips

Dear GCN:

The appearance of Anita Bryant in Boston at a political fundraiser for Howard Phillips affords us all an opportunity to really see how repressive sexuality and repressive politics go hand in hand.

We are all familiar with the unfortunate Ms. Bryant and her misguided martyrdom. Mr. Phillips, however, has a career equally destructive of what it means to be human and he should inspire dread among all people, gay and straight.

I first became aware of him in 1970. He was running against Michael Harrington for the U.S. House from the North Shore. He came to speak to students at North Shore Community College about his candidacy. The issues which Mr. Phillips was espousing at the time were the creations of then Attorney General John Mitchell — namely "preventive detention" and the "No-Knock" clause of the 1970 Omnibus Crime Bill. These measures were designed to allow police to arrest anyone for any reason, merely if they were suspected of being a criminal. Normal search warrants would have been dispensed with also, allowing police to literally knock your door down and arrest you without having to go to a U.S. Magistrate. Mr. Phillips also suggested to the gathering that junkies should be placed in jail, since they were really criminals and not people in need of help or rehabilitation.

Well, Mr. Phillips didn't know it, but there were a lot of junkies in his audience and several staff people from the local drug program, including myself. He did not get a good reception. But the thing I remember most was his

unashamed callousness and his naive ignorance of the feelings of others.

A few years later, Richard Nixon picked Howard Phillips to be acting director of the Office of Economic Opportunity with the express purpose of dismantling it and rolling back all the anti-poverty legislation which LBJ had pushed through Congress. These programs did things like distribute surplus food to the poor, set up food co-ops, and hire antipoverty lawyers.

Mr. Phillips lost to Michael Harrington in 1970 and Michael Harrington went on to be one of the most progressive people in the House (he told the world of the CIA's involvement in the downfall of Allende's Chile). Now it is 1978 and Howard Phillips pops up again. National Chairman of the Conservative Caucus and buddy-buddy with another member of that group, Meldrim Thompson, supporter of Apartheid in South Africa and Nuclear Power in the U.S.

Every rightwing anti-human movement has its underlying sexual ethic and it is important for us all to see how the two go together. Our enemy is as much Howard Phillips as it is Anita Bryant; for they both stand against the legitimate demands of all humanity to live in happiness and human fulfillment.

The New Right is here, and we had best get on with organizing ourselves and supporting our mutual efforts. Let us not burn ourselves out with mere hatred for Anita, but instead devote our energies to calm, effective efforts to organize and support ourselves through the many groups we do have.

Gerry Scoppettuolo  
Dorchester, Ma.

Each person also had his/her conviction overturned by the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts on appeal.

I do not believe, as your literature asserts, that you are "utterly uncorruptible." I consider it wrong that your top assistant D.A., Thomas Dwyer, is the son of a sitting Superior Court judge. I consider it wrong that most of your highly-paid staff lives outside of Suffolk County. I consider your election-year press releases and press conferences as mere political gimmickry designed to fool the voters into thinking you are doing more good than you really are.

A good district attorney would involve himself with serious issues of the day — not whether "Hair" or "I Am Curious (Yellow)" or "Deep Throat" are allowed to be shown at adult movie theaters.

A competent district attorney would not have established a "hot line" for the public to telephone in anonymous tips about the activities of gay men. And an honest district attorney would not sleep at his desk for three years like a latter-day Rip Van Winkle, only to rejuvenate himself while reporters are watching and other candidates' nomination papers are circulating.

I realize that I am taking some risk by saying these things. If you are re-elected on Sept. 19, I may be in big trouble, although I don't know exactly what you're planning.

I know that I am not alone, however. I want to know why otherwise courageous politicians — people like Larry DiCara, Barney Frank, or even Kevin White — become mice when it comes to criticizing you. What do you have over everyone? Having been in the D.A.'s office since 1932, do you see any similarities between yourself and J. Edgar Hoover?

I am not making an ageist issue out of this race, although at least one of your opponents is doing just that. I am opposed to mandatory retirement. Some of the best people in the legal establishment are among the oldest.

But the best people in the legal establishment are not people who lie and cheat. They are people who respect professionalism, not grandstanding. And to suggest, as your literature does, that you are "not a politician" is to make absurdly deceptive claims of the most irresponsible and inexcusable sort.

It is for these reasons, and more, that I am unable to vote for you this year. And I believe any other voter in Suffolk County with a modicum of intelligence would arrive at the same conclusion upon examination of the same objective facts.

Sincerely yours,  
David P. Brill

### on queerbashing

Dear GCN:

I was very impressed by Eric Rofes' piece on "queerbashing." Now I know why it's taking so long for men to shed the voluntary bondage of male-scripting. Many men (straight and gay) would like to loosen their stride and maybe wear more flowing garments, but they're discouraged by the threat of physical violence. It is this raw force of machismo that is keeping a lid on the anxious seeds of a "men's liberation movement" (and I believe women and gays will never be fully liberated until men are).

An unfortunate sub-plot of this non-fiction is the fact that a fairly sizeable number of gay men are among the ranks of those who become seriously threatened by another's overt surrender of "male armor." This surrender can be as subtle as an earring or as blatant as a sequined gown. It disturbs certain gay men, they say, because they are worried about reinforcing the stereotype straights have of us. (Our concern, at this point, should be centered on unity as men who have chosen an alternative lifestyle, and not on the societal opinions of our nonconformity.) I suppose it is also disturbing to them because they retain a great deal of traditionally male attitudes, regardless of the fact that they've rejected those concerning gender preference for sexual contact.

Certainly, I am not implying that these men are "queerbashers." Very few could be so heartless. There is, however, a definite element of discomfort and even hostility evident when they are confronted by gay men who are less "masculine" than themselves in social situations. And this seemingly innocent animosity stems from the

same root as does "queerbashing": fear of feminization.

By now we've all heard a lot about "oppression from within." I am talking now about individual self-oppression. By suppressing their emotional (traditionally feminine) qualities, some gay men are reinforcing the concept of "different is evil." And it is this very concept that brutal straights use to justify their aggressions against gay men who are not sufficiently butch, these straight-gays are perpetuating the homophobia and subsequent harassment that has recently become painfully prominent in Boston and across the country.

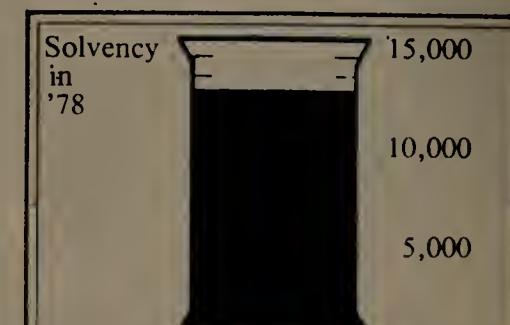
Some self-examination in terms of personal liberation is necessary for everyone, especially women and gays. If we cannot overcome the basic gender scripting that constricts emotional and physical expression, this struggle for personal freedom will be a lonely one. When all men are able to show affection towards each other, dress and walk as they please, and break the breeding cycle of homophobia, people will be beaten because they are unlucky and not because they are gay.

Hopefully,  
Thomas Michael Smith  
Boston

### SORRY

In Vol. 6, No. 5, we headlined a page 1 story, "Gay Lutheran Minister Dismissed by Upstate New York Church." The story, however, concerned an incident in Rego Park, which is in New York City. As one of our more diligent readers pointed out, "Rego Park is in the middle of Queens, idiots."

We apologize for the mistake.



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Managing Editor Richard Burns  
News Editor Jim Marko  
Features Editor Eric Rofes  
Circulation Krusk  
Office Mgr./Bkkpr. John Graczak  
Editorial Consultant David P. Brill  
Classifieds Nancy Walker  
Art Director Reg Taylor  
Distribution Pat M. Kuras  
Business Manager Roberta Stone  
Advertising Mgr. Tim Grant  
Promotions Mgr. David Peterson  
Copy Editor Robert Etherington  
Typesetting Xanadu Graphics Inc  
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Nell Miller  
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Ken Rabb Marcus DiVito  
Eric Roth Don C. Hanover III

Layout and Illustration Staff Bill Shawcross  
Wellington Bruce Crooker  
Rick Hillegas Mike Riegler

Promotions Peter Martin  
Don Barrett Doug Barry  
Mel Horne Ken Westhassel

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# SPEAKING OUT

## Woman-Hating as a Gay Male Sacrament

By Pat M. Kuras

Society, such as it is, allows oppression to exist in many guises. Certain acts of oppression not only flow unchecked, but are actually *condoned*. Women-hating is a prime example.

In our heterosexist society, to be a woman is to be an inferior being. In order to be given any acknowledgement, a woman must be owned by a man. With the exception of spinsters, feminists and dykes (all three being seen as eccentric, pushy or unnatural), women must somehow be tied to men. Whether it be family bonds (wife, daughter, etc.) or economic hierarchy (charwoman, secretary, etc.), the majority of women stand in the shadows of men.

We are the invisible sex. Because we are less visible, because we have little (or no) power, because we are only #2 of the sexes, it is considered acceptable to dump on women.

There is a great deal of women-hating prevalent in the gay men's community; some of it is outright hostility. With this year's Pride Week celebrations, there was controversy involving the addition of the word *lesbian*. In fact, when one of the posters was placed in an all-men's bar, precious little time had lapsed before the word *lesbian* had been viciously scratched from the title.

"Sophie, you have no tits and a tight pussy."

"Get off my back!"

The above two lines may not be completely verbatim, but the essence of the joke is still intact. The lines, sadly enough, are from a woman. They are from an album by the high queen of camp, Bette Midler. The joke itself was Sophie Tucker's. With the joke playing on anal sex, gay men got a good laugh from it.

Some men may be willing to consider the joke's derogatory tone toward

women. But because the joke itself is delivered by a woman, men will find it hard to examine the misogyny. Since it is a woman telling the joke, it is assumed that the joke is not harmful or degrading to women. However, most men who laugh at this type of humor may very well not even bother to attempt to weigh the complexities and see the joke for the misogynist attack it is.

Women-hating appears in even the most "progressive" men. For example, when women get into heated arguments among themselves with men present, the men — rather than taking supportive sides — will ridicule and belittle the women for their spirited debates. By this behavior, they are demonstrating that they don't find women's viewpoints important or valid enough to fight over. Women's actions are seen as silly or insipid, while men are entitled to react to situations in any given way without coming under humiliating and intimidating attack.

Women-hating, as open antagonism, is rampant in the gay male community; women-hating also manifests itself in lesser forms, which makes it more sinister and equally divisive to the lesbian and gay community. The fact remains that women-hating, to some degree, is possible in all men.

**"Speaking Out"** is the column designed for the benefit of GCN readers. It is part of our continuing effort to provide a true forum of opinion for the community. We encourage you to send your thoughts, ideas, feelings and comments to us and we encourage you to respond to any ideas expressed in this space. The opinions expressed in "Speaking Out" do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper, the staff or the advertisers. Speaking Out, GCN, 22 Bromfield St., Boston, MA 02108.

## DID YOU SEE?

The following was an Ann Landers column which appeared in daily newspapers throughout the country on July 31, 1978.

Dear Ann Landers:

I read the plea from Ohio Mother asking if her son who is gay could possibly go straight. Before I read your answer I said to myself, "Today Ann Landers will fall on her face. She hasn't the guts to face this one." But I was wrong. Congratulations. You said,

"The chances are very slim" — and you were right.

I am gay. I didn't just wake up one day and decide I wanted to be this way. When I was in my early teens, I listened to guys talk about girls and wondered why I didn't have those same feelings. But I don't want this letter to be about me. I'm really writing about mothers of gays.

I'm not swishy or effeminate, but when I was 18 I knew I was different. I

worried most about how Mother would take it. It almost made me sick. One day I was careless with a letter. Mom found it and learned the truth. We had a tearful discussion and I agreed to try to be "normal." It didn't work. Months later Mom finally asked, "Have you given up trying to be straight?" I said, "Yes." She replied, "All right. We won't talk about it anymore." And we never did.

When God closes one door, he opens another. Please tell Ohio Mother to count her blessings before she lists her troubles. And P.S. — will you print once more for those who need to see it again, what causes homosexuality?

— Gay and Coping

The experts are sharply divided on what causes homosexuality. Authorities such as Dr. Irving Bieber of New York and Dr. Harold Voth at

Menninger's in Topeka, Kan. espouse the hotly debated theory that homosexuality is the result of psychological problems that begin early in life and that the pattern is set by age three or four. They claim family histories are remarkably similar — a cold, detached, punitive (or absent) father. The mothers, they say, were overly protective, sometimes to compensate for the attitude of the father.

I recommend an organization called "Parents of Gays." They believe psychiatry for gays is a waste of time and money if the object is to get them to go straight. I agree. I do believe, however, that therapy is useful if the gay suffers from anxiety and guilt, feelings of worthlessness or suicidal tendencies.

"Parents of Gays" has many chapters in small towns as well as large cities.

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## "Homosexuals are child molesters."

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Police statistics show that more than 95% of child molestation is heterosexual in nature. And so are equally high percentages of child abuse, rape and domestic violence.

Yet child molestation is always hung around the necks of gay people.

And with the Briggs Initiative, Proposition 6, on the November California ballot, we're sure to see more of the scare tactics and lies that we have seen in cities around the country.

In California, we will be facing an emotional campaign, with lesbians and gay men everywhere involved in a fierce battle for our freedom. If the Briggs Initiative passes, it will prohibit lesbians and gay men from teaching and will place severe restrictions on the rights of all teachers. It would give rise to witch hunts across the state and, even more importantly, would reinforce the myths and fears that many Americans have about us.

Briggs and his supporters are sure to distort the truth about child molestation and other unfounded fears. They'll be saying that their children have to be "protected" from us and, to do that, they'll deny us our right to work and to free speech.

And the average voters have heard so little that is true about us that they may very well believe it.

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# Walpole Prison Guard Arrested in Rest Area Extortion Incident

By David Brill

FOXBORO, MA — State Police arrested a 28-year-old man on charges of extortion and impersonating a state police officer after police received a report that he had attempted to extort \$500.00 from a gay man in a rest area along Route 95 in Mansfield. David W. Freitas of Lakeville, a father of two and a corrections officer at Walpole State Prison, was arrested on Aug. 16.

According to Sgt. William Brooks of the Massachusetts State Police, a gay man walked into the Foxboro police barracks on Aug. 15 to report that while cruising in the rest area, a

man approached him and offered to have sex. When the gay man agreed, the other man showed a badge and identified himself as a state trooper, and told him he was under arrest for "unnatural acts". On the way to the car, the alleged officer told the gay man that there would be considerable publicity from the arrest, and offered to "forget everything" for \$500.00.

The gay man agreed to meet the "officer" the next night, and then went immediately to the Foxboro state police barracks and reported the incident. When he went back to the rest area the following night to meet his

would-be extorter, two plainclothes state troopers emerged and arrested Freitas. It was then that the gay man learned that Freitas was not a state police officer, but a prison guard at Walpole, a few miles away.

Freitas was arraigned the next morning at Attleboro District Court and ordered held on \$2000.00 cash bail. Trial has been set for next month.

Sgt. Brooks told GCN that the State police are anxious to talk with any other men who feel they may have been extorted under similar circumstances. "This guy has obviously been involved under similar circumstances. Extortion

and impersonating a state police officer are both felony charges," he said, and police will act to investigate any other complaints received. Sgt. Brooks may be reached at (617) 543-8550.

Corrections Department spokesperson Larry Parnell told GCN that Freitas has been suspended without pay pending the outcome of an internal investigation and the trial. If he is found guilty, Farnell said he may be discharged, due to the seriousness of the charges.

## Women Take Back the Night

Continued from Page 1

Women in buildings along the march route hung out of their windows, showing their support with clenched fists and cheers. Some joined the march as it moved to Copley Plaza.

Groups of men sympathetic to the demands of the demonstration stood together at several points along the march route, holding candles to show their support. State Rep. Mel King was one of the men who organized the candlelight vigils. The men joined the women at the rally, after the march.

### Speeches and Solidarity

The rally consisted of speeches, many of which were translated into Spanish, and songs. Ann Traynor, from Women Against Violence Against Women, began the rally by talking about how "every century speaks of sexual violence and male assault." She continued, "The positive

aspect of us being here tonight is that this power and male violence will not continue when we join together to resist it. We have said no by being here and will continue to say no. No to the fear of the night, the fear of the stranger's step, the fear of lock-up."

Karen Lindsey, local feminist poet, read a speech prepared by the Prostitutes Union of Massachusetts. The speech touched on the violence against prostitutes and how the rally related to that violence. Lindsey reminded the crowd that 30% of the women in jail are there on prostitution charges. She also talked about how the laws against prostitution apply only to women, and "As far as society is concerned there is no such thing as violence against prostitutes."

Sherry Weingart from the Abortion Action Coalition announced the up-



Susan Fleischmann

coming demonstration against Anita Bryant, reminding people that Bryant was invited to Boston on behalf of an anti-abortion candidate in the Democratic Senatorial primary. Speaking for

the ACC, Weingart said, "Like all of us the AAC wishes we didn't have to be here; we wish we all had the ability to live safely and well in and outside our homes, the ability to maintain our integrity in all situations (particularly the health care system), the ability to live joyfully both by ourselves and with our families, however we define them. Since wishing won't make it so, since freedom is a constant struggle, let's explore some aspects of the current abortion situation, see how the issue relates to violence against women, and discuss what to do about it." Weingart went on to talk about the correlation between limiting funds for abortions and increased sterilization abuse.

Organizers of the march plan to continue doing work around the demands raised by the demonstration. There will be a follow-up meeting on Sept. 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the Cambridge Women's Center for all women who attended the march and rally.

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# NEW YORK, NEW YORK

By Harold Pickett

NEW YORK — Citizens for Gay Rights Legislation, a new organization formed and coordinated by Bill Elverman and Jim Nicola, has sent a letter signed by producer Joseph Papp, playwrights Edward Albee and Arthur Laurents, and actors Lauren Bacall, Hume Cronyn, and Jessica Tandy to prominent citizens in the arts, science, business, and politics aiming at an impressive and influential expression of support for Intro 384, the gay rights bill introduced in the City Council. If passed, Intro 384 would ban discrimination against lesbians and gays on the basis of sexual orientation in the areas of employment, housing, and public accommodations.

The letter briefly explains the aim of Intro 384 and notes other cities in

which similar bills have passed. It cites New York political figures and groups, such as the ACLU and NOW, in support of gay rights legislation.

The letter urges, "You have helped to fight prejudice against Blacks and Hispanics, against Jews and Catholics, against women. We need you to help once again, this time to aid those whom columnist Robert Lipsyte called 'the ultimate minority' — the hundreds of thousands of gay men and women in New York.

"We are forming a broadly-based ad-hoc committee in support of Intro 384, the Gay Rights Bill. Membership will include prominent members of the arts, sciences, and professions. Men and women. Gay and non-gay. Our goal is a public statement of support for this bill which may be used in the local press, radio, and television."

"We are enclosing a draft of our support statement, as well as a list of the people we will be contacting. We ask that you return the form, indicating the degree of your interest. You may also wish to recommend other people you think will be interested in our campaign.

"We hope you will join us in giving your name and your support in this fight for civil liberties, as you have most generously in the past."

It is hoped that a massive display of prominent support for Intro 384 will motivate other New Yorkers to write their Council people in support of the bill.

Bill Elverman told GCN that "I'm in theatre and Jim Nicola and I began talking last February about how we knew of so many people who were in favor of gay rights legislation. This was around the time when many people seemed to be against it."

The original "committee of six" took about three months to form.

Most of those contacted wanted to read the group statement first or to see who else would be supporting the statement. Lauren Bacall, for example, "wanted to sign last in order to see who else was signing."

Elverman said they want to expand the list beyond theatre and the arts, but have not been successful with corporation presidents, either in terms of money or signatures.

The group presently has only a few hundred dollars, but they are "talking money for newspaper and radio ads" and there is the likelihood of Stephen Sondheim helping with an upcoming media event.

While not wanting to release a few names at a time, Elverman said their list of prominent supporters was growing. "We're getting a very good list. It's up to about 60 or so, a big theatre list and very well-known. When we make the list public, it will be a picture-taking opportunity."

## New American Movement Forms Task Force at Convention

By Chris Riddiough

MILWAUKEE, WI — The New American Movement, a nationwide socialist feminist organization, formed a task force on "gay/lesbian liberation" at its 1978 annual convention held here recently. NAM, which was formed in 1972, also gave priority to work against the Briggs Initiative in California.

The resolution adopted at the convention "reaffirmed NAM's commitment to gay and lesbian liberation." The resolution stated that "... a campaign has developed attacking gay rights and gay people. This campaign has taken the form of efforts to repeal gay rights laws. It has spawned efforts to prohibit gay rights supporters from teaching in the public schools. This campaign is part of a broader right-

wing attack on a number of issues related to lifestyle and family, such as the ERA and reproductive rights."

The NAM resolution also stated specific ways in which the group's members and chapters will work toward fulfillment of the stated goals. It commits NAM to efforts at public education on gay and lesbian issues and to "doing support work on gay rights in whatever forms are possible."

The resolution set up a Gay/Lesbian Liberation Task Force as part of NAM's Socialist Feminist Commission. The task force, composed of NAM members "involved in gay liberation work," would help coordinate such work within the organization. The task force will be chaired jointly by the

Lesbian Caucus and the Gay Male Network, and would work with these two groups in "setting up methods of personal support" for gay men and lesbians within NAM.

The final part of the convention's resolution sets work on the Briggs Initiative as a "priority." The anti-gay teacher initiative will be on the California ballot in November, and the state chapter of NAM has selected a statewide coordinator for the efforts there. The state NAM chapter will be working with the Californians Against the Briggs Initiative.

In other action at the National NAM convention, a Reproductive Bill of Rights was adopted. The bill of rights includes support for the right of sexual freedom, including gay liberation; the right to parent or not to parent, including support for lesbian mothers; the right to abortion; and the right to be free from forced sterilization. In forming an Internationalism Commission, the convention also adopted a resolution in support of a national health service.

National officers for the coming year were elected and this full-time Political Committee will be in the Chicago office. Members of the committee are Judy MacLean, Marilyn Katz, and Richard Healey. Also elected was the group's National Interim Committee, which functions as a steering committee between conventions. Members of that committee include Carolyn Nagid of Boston, Holly Graff of Pittsburgh, Roberta Lynch and Dolores Wilbur of Chicago, Stanley Aronowitz of San Diego, Rick Kunnes of Detroit, Dean Pappas of Baltimore, and Mike Rotkin of Santa Cruz.

The theme of the 1978 NAM convention was "Labor Today and the Role of the Left Within It." Along with educational and work sessions setting the organization's policies over the coming year, the convention featured a number of cultural events. Many films were shown, including *Word Is Out*, the highly acclaimed film of interviews with 26 gay men and lesbians.

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# Surveying the Candidates in M

*A special note: For the next three issues, GCN will be taking a look at various races to be voted on in the Sept. 19 primary elections in Massachusetts. This is being done in the hopes that an informed electorate will be better able to make the right decisions when voting. For our readers outside Massachusetts, please accept our apologies; we hope this coverage inspires you to find out more about candidates in your area.*

## Candidates for Governor

### QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR

(1) If elected/re-elected, would you issue an Executive Order banning discrimination on the basis of sexual preference in state employment?

(2) Would you support efforts by the Office for Children, the Division of Youth Services, and the Department of Public Welfare to institute a state-funded program to assist runaway and delinquent gay adolescents?

(3) Would you support educational programs for officers in the Department of Corrections, Metropolitan Police, and State Police dealing with the needs and problems of gay citizens?

(4) Would you appoint at least one lesbian to the 27-member Governor's Commission on the Status of Women?

(5) Would you sign legislation eliminating criminal penalties for private sexual acts among consenting adults?

(6) Would you be willing to assign not less than one member of your staff whose duties would include liaison work with the gay community?

issue such an order is within the power of the governor. The present governor, despite his self-proclaimed opposition to anti-gay discrimination, has not issued such an Executive Order.

2. The problems of gay adolescents in trouble is a special one and should be addressed by the responsible state agencies.

- 3. Yes.
- 4. Yes.
- 5. Yes.
- 6. Yes.



Francis W. Hatch (R)

1. I think the legislative route is a more effective one. And I will continue to support legislation which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual preference in civil service hiring.

2. I will continue to support efforts by the various agencies to develop and administer programs which effectively deal with the multitude of problems of *all* runaway and delinquent adolescents. Hopefully, all of the state agencies involved in children's services will develop a cooperative and more coordinated approach to such problems.

3. I would expect that the problems of gay children would be among the topics dealt with in any broad educational program for police officers regarding citizen problems.

4. No, I do not believe in quota systems:

5. There are a number of antiquated crimes and laws on the statutes which ought to be changed or repealed. I think we need to begin to look at these statutes and make decisions on a statute-by-statute basis.

6. I would hope to have at least one member of my staff doing liaison work with all of the citizens of Massachusetts, whatever their interests or concerns.

4. Since part of my platform includes repeal of the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women, this question is moot. Furthermore, since an Equal Rights Amendment is already part of our state constitution, I question whether this Commission can be funded unless there is a commission on the status of men with an equal appropriation.

- 5 Yes.
- 6 No.

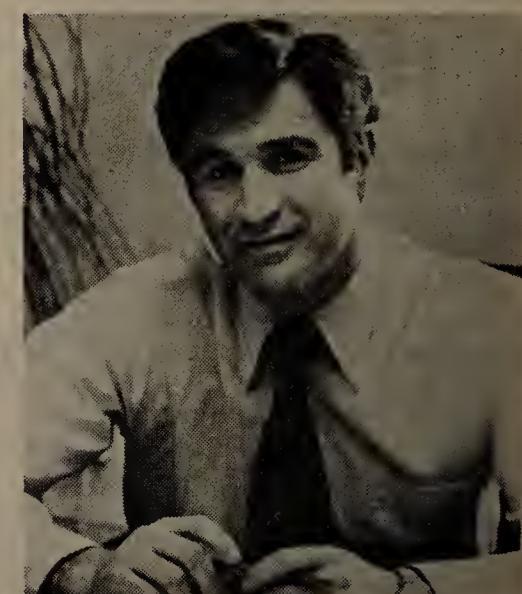
2. Of course I would not sponsor or co-sponsor such legislation.

3. I would vote against S.1437, the Federal Criminal Code revision bill.

4. Yes, I favor lowering taxes and tax rates for all persons, whether single or married.

5. No. I regard homosexuality as sinful, corrupt, and debilitative.

6. Absolutely not.



## Candidates for U.S. Senate

### QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES FOR CONGRESS AND U.S. SENATE

(1) Would you support legislation on the federal level to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual preference under the Civil Rights Act, just as other types of discrimination are currently prohibited?

(2) Would you be willing to sponsor or co-sponsor this legislation?

(3) Please outline your position on S.1437, the federal criminal code revision.

(4) Would you support legislation eliminating discrimination against single taxpayers?

(5) Would you work to change current policy in all branches of the armed forces requiring the immediate discharge of homosexuals under less-than-honorable conditions?

(6) Do you support a seven year extension for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment?

Paul Guzzi (D):

- 1. Yes.
- 2. I would consider sponsoring or cosponsoring such legislation.
- 3. While amendments are needed, particularly to remove provisions threatening the exercise of First Amendment freedoms, the bill does make important contributions in the areas of civil rights, civil liberties, sentencing procedures, and effective law enforcement. Reform of the criminal code is long overdue and, although the bill does not contain all the reforms I would like to see, it is the most liberal criminal reform bill with a chance for passage this year and I support it.

4. Single persons are currently unfairly taxed at a much higher rate than married couples. I have called for legislation to correct this inequality and establish equivalent rates for single and married taxpayers.

5. I would support efforts to end discrimination against homosexuals in the armed forces.

6. Yes. Enactment of the E.R.A. is important to guarantee an end to discrimination on the basis of sex.

### RESPONSES OF CANDIDATES FOR U.S. SENATE:



Howard Phillips (D):

1. I am opposed to any legislation, judicial or bureaucratic action, which would establish "rights" for homosexuals as a class.



Paul Tsongas (D):

- 1. Yes.
- 2. Yes.
- 3. Although I strongly favor revision of the criminal code, some of the provisions of the Senate bill may restrict rather than enlarge the scope of civil liberties protections. Ultimately, I would have to vote against any increased restrictions on civil liberties.

### RESPONSES OF CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR



Barbara Ackermann (D)

1. When elected, I will immediately issue an Executive Order banning discrimination on the basis of sexual preference in state employment. To



Edward F. King (R)

- 1. No.
- 2. No.
- 3. No.

# Massachusetts

4. Since major revisions in the tax code were made in 1969, single taxpayers have been placed in a situation that is much less discriminatory. I have worked for tax reform that would be more equitable for all groups that are unfairly discriminated against and would continue to do this.

5. Yes. I am aware of and strongly opposed to this policy. As you know, the courts have failed to force the military to modify its position. I have already made my views on this subject known to the Department of Defense and will continue to devote my efforts to a change in policy that will be definitive and all-encompassing in all branches of the armed forces.

6. Yes. I voted for the extension of the deadline when it came before Congress this summer.



## Edward W. Brooke (R):

1. Yes.
2. Yes.

3. While I support the codification and revision of the federal criminal laws and generally support S.1437, I do have serious reservations regarding certain sections of the present measure. In some areas the bill would change the existing law in ways that would unduly expand federal power. And in other areas, the bill would pose possible threats to fundamental Constitutional rights. Indeed, during floor debate on S.1437, I joined with other Senators in offering amendments which would improve these poorly and dangerously drafted provisions. The Senate passed a number of these amendments, but improvements must still be made in the bill. Fortunately, the House of Representative is now considering criminal code legislation. And I am confident that during the House debate and during the two-year period following enactment of the bill (if it passes) before it goes into effect, we will make the necessary adjustments to insure that the bill will not, in any way, jeopardize our individual liberties.

Without a doubt, the codification and revision of our federal criminal law ranks as one of the top legislative priorities. For while it is not a cure-all for our national problem of crime, it does offer us the best opportunity in more than 200 years to vastly improve the administration of criminal justice in this country.

4. Yes. My position has always been to support equity and fairness with regard to our tax system, for single people or married people. To tax either group in a discriminatory fashion runs against my beliefs. Personally, I favor tax cuts at this time, although I have strong reservations concerning the specifics of the Kemp-Roth bill, a bill which I fear would be inflationary and would seriously increase the federal deficit. Single people (and any tax-

payer) might be interested to know that I recently introduced a tax indexing bill with Congressman Gradison which would adjust the withholding rate applied to earned income by the change in the Consumer Price Index over the four previous calendar quarters — thus eliminating the phenomenon of "bracket creep" or "taxflation" which has plagued the American taxpayer since the mid-1960s. Also, single taxpayers might want to be aware of the provisions of the Graduated Payment Mortgage (GPM) plan which resulted from a bill I introduced in the Senate. A GPM allows young people to buy a home and pay relatively low mortgage payments during the initial years of the life of the mortgage. At my urging this program is to be made available to young single people as well as young marrieds.

5. Yes. I am already working towards that end.

6. On May 17, along with Senators Muriel Humphrey and Birch Bayh, I introduced S.J. Res. 134, legislation which would extend the time limit to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment.

Because of the demonstrated need for the Equal Rights Amendment and because of its overwhelming public support, I have long been confident that the States would ratify the ERA by March 22, 1979. But, regrettably, it now appears doubtful that the requisite 38-states will ratify it by that deadline. A realistic examination reveals that in a number of states opponents of ERA, as in the past, may not even allow a vote on ratification. And, indeed, in several crucial states, the legislatures do not even convene again until after March of 1979. Thus this unfortunate situation impelled me to introduce legislation which would extend the deadline for ratification. Such an extension would afford more time for debate and provide an opportunity for the unratified states to vote on whether or not to ratify the ERA.

I fervently hope that the passage of the ERA extension will serve only as a form of insurance policy and that it will never have to go into effect. Indeed, I pray that it will be a catalyst for state action, signaling state legislatures that they cannot avoid the issue and that, sooner or later, they will have to vote on the merits of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Some have charged that passage of this legislation would "change the rules in the middle of the game." But, clearly, as so many constitutional scholars have concluded, Congress has the discretion and the prerogative to extend the period within which ratification may occur. And, as Laurence Tribe, professor of constitutional law at Harvard University, has said

"A constitutional amendment is far too serious to see who beats who to the finish line.... It's more than a game."

It took 72 years to win for women the right to vote. And for fifty-five years the battle for Constitutional equality has been fought. We simply cannot pause now. We cannot now place a time limit on our quest to secure one of the most fundamental human rights of this century. That is why I have fought, and will continue to fight, for the ERA on the floor of the Senate and across the nation.

## NOTE

If your favorite candidate for Congress, U.S. Senate, or Governor is not named here, it is because he or she did not respond to GCN's questionnaire.

## Interview: LARRY DiCARA

By David Brill



GCN: Do you think the conditions for gay people in this city have improved over the last few years?

LD: I'm not sure that things have improved, but things are more open. People are talking where, seven years ago, when I first began in public office people were not communicating and I think there are some communications now, some of which I helped to initiate or re-initiate when they'd broken down. . . . I think things are better in the sense that people are much more willing to discuss things, not as much only in the city, but in a national sense.

GCN: What do you attribute the present anti-gay backlash to?

LD: I don't know. It's very possible that it's a backlash against all the things that happened in the sixties and early seventies. There has surely been a backlash against black people. Blacks are just not "IN" anymore... The cause of black people is not the cause of the suburbs in 1978 as it once was. . . . Poor people aren't "in" anymore. . . . The other think is that between Anita Bryant and some other people, there are some who have ridden to some prominence on being anti-gay, and that also gives fuel to the fire.

GCN: As State Treasurer, would you use the weight of your office to help push for the bills?

LD: I will support that legislation as I have in the past. I have no difficulty doing it whatsoever. I must admit that that would not be my top priority because it doesn't relate directly to the treasurer's office. . . . But were I asked . . . I might even be able to show up at the hearing.

GCN: What about the employees of the State Treasurer's office and the lottery, more than 500 positions?

LD: I think that I've had a very open employment policy. I surely would not discriminate. I think you'd find that anybody who works in the treasurer's office is middle-aged and comes from a traditional political background, and has to be Irish or Italian, which is all right, but there are lots of other different kinds of people in this state. I must admit I've never taken a census of gay people in the treasurer's office, but I'd be surprised if there was anyone up there who was not in the most traditional mold of American society. . . . I'd think it's wrong that there are no black people in the treasurer's office.

GCN: What do you think of Garrett Byrne?

LD: . . . It's a question of what the priorities have to be. I think that priorities are violent crime and political corruption. And what you do when you spend all of your time — sex rings, prostitutes — is that you put up a smokescreen. And believe me, there's lots of political corruption and there's lots of violent crime in Boston.

GCN: What do you think of Elaine Noble?

LD: Elaine has become a very effective representative, because she's become one of the guys, and that's what you have to do to be a rep up there. . . . Her candidacy is in trouble, I think she realizes it. But I think she's going to get more votes than people expect her to get — maybe ten percent, maybe fifteen, she won't get twenty.

GCN: What about the Briggs initiative in California?

LD: I would oppose that. It's a very simple First Amendment issue. I believe our classrooms should be fountains of freedom, and it bothers me an awful lot that apparently a politician in California seeks to ride this horse up the political waters. I think as politicians we acknowledge that we are failing in our duties when we put everything on the ballot. And I don't like to fail.

# CONFERENCES

## Integrity Meets in Minneapolis

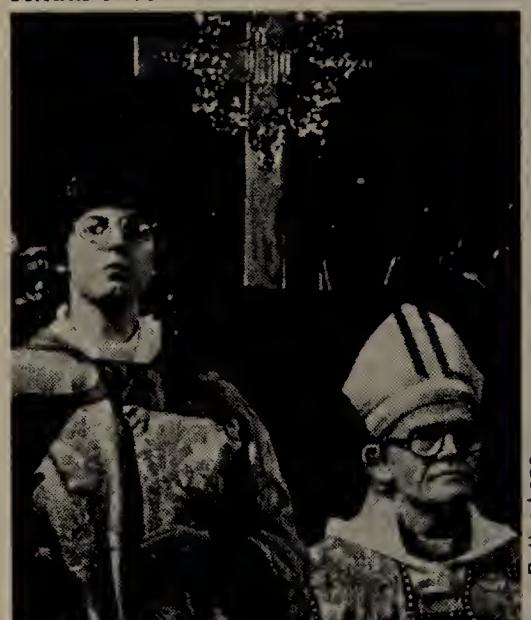
By Ray Olson

Gathering in Minneapolis for the fourth national Integrity convention, members of the organization of gay and lesbian Episcopalians and their friends were asked for greater commitment of time, money, and energy as preparations for the 1979 general convention of the U.S. Episcopal Church proceed. The 1979 convention will consider the report of the Church's Commission on Human Sexuality and the ordination of "avowed homosexuals," concerns also evident during Integrity's Aug. 17-20 meeting in Gethsemane Episcopal Church in Minneapolis.

In his opening address, national president John Lawrence of Boston stressed the need for members' commitment. "I am disappointed and disheartened by the lack of chapter participation. It seems Episcopalians don't much involve themselves in sacrificial giving," he said. He speculated that Integrity members do not give as much to their cause as anti-gay church members do to theirs. He read letters of appeal for support he has received from gay Christians newly come out to illustrate the need for gay Christian interdependence that Integrity must meet.

Lawrence also called for a new Christian sexual ethic, especially for gays. "Guilt seems to be out of fashion, which I think is too bad," he said. There are aspects of gay life "for which we should be guilty." While he decried police entrapment of men allegedly cruising in the Boston Public

Library, he regretted that reaction to the arrests did not acknowledge "there may just be places inappropriate for sexual encounters."



Ellen Marie Barrett

James Nelson, professor of Christian ethics, United Theological Seminary, New Brighton, MN, in an Aug. 18 address, noted double vision in the church due to the "classic dualisms" of spirit/body and of sexism. The church has seen two things where there is only one in matters of sexuality, he said. "Our sexuality is the grounding of our ability to love." He believes the church must adopt a "single-standard" sexual ethic for men and women, gay and straight.

Nelson, who spoke frequently against repeal of gay civil rights during the St. Paul election campaign in April, said gays are vital to three

necessary tasks the Church must perform. First, "the Church has got to probe the causes and cures of homophobia," he said. "When we are talking about homophobia we are basically talking about sin." As with all sin, "the root problem is insecurity" and "the Christian answer to sin is the grace of God and Jesus Christ" through which "our infinite self-worth is assured."

Nelson believes the Church also has to address the concerns of gays within it. "The issue is full church support for gay civil rights. The Church has got to understand there is a fundamental church/state separation issue. It is ironically those church groups that are against gay rights that have historically profited most from church/state separation." Another issue for gays within the Church is "covenantal gay union," i.e., a union of love such as marriage. "The blessing-of-union rite is tremendously important on the church's agenda," he said.

Finally, Nelson stated, "the Church has to discover it is a sexual community. . . . It is a sexual community because our sexuality is basically important to virtually everything the Church does." He cited the doctrine of God as one example of sexuality in the Church, pointing out the sexism of the doctrine in modern times. "To the extent that God is conceived in masculine ways, God will always be Law, Order, Structure. . . . But God is in the Old Testament as a woman pregnant, as nurse and mother," he said, with the associated values of intuition, nur-

turance, and spontaneity. Inasmuch as gays are more acquainted with androgyny they are an important resource for rethinking what God is all about.

In response to a question about the sexuality of Jesus, Nelson added, "If Christ is an indication of authentic humanity, then the issue [of his sexuality] must be addressed."

During the Aug. 19 business meeting Kevin Scahill of Rochester, N.Y., was installed as national vice president, and George Casper of Boston as treasurer. Bill Doubleday, also from Boston, former editor of the Integrity journal *Forum*, outlined the general approach that was agreed upon for the 1979 general convention.

Doubleday said the general convention committee he chaired concluded it would be more effective not to press for canonical ordination of gays. Such a demand would probably be resisted successfully and, since nothing in the canon says gays cannot be ordained, would be an empty gesture. Rather the Church should be asked to continue its support for present and future ordained gays and for greater and more open ministry to gays. At this time it is better to press for further study of gay religious issues, he said.

Other convention events included the presentation of the 1978 Integrity award to Episcopal priest and activist Malcolm Boyd, an address about gay survival by Ellen Barrett, the first open lesbian ordained an Episcopal priest, and a presentation on gay books for children and teenagers by Barbara Gittings, coordinator of the Task Force on Gay Liberation of the American Library Association.

Workshops, worship services, and a Mississippi River cruise on a stern-wheel riverboat were also available for the 108 delegates and St. Paul-Minneapolis residents who swelled attendance at some events to 150-200.

**MONDAY**  
PATTI O'KEEFE  
"Our Singing Barmaid"  
Happy Hour All Night  
(8pm - 1am)

**TUESDAY**  
"SCARLETT"  
Happy Hour All Night  
(8pm - 1am)

**WEDNESDAY**  
BILL BARBRICK  
Happy Hour All Night  
(8pm - 1am)

**THURSDAY**  
DISCO DANCE LESSONS  
(7 - 8pm)  
TWO for ONE from 8 - 9pm  
(7pm - 1am)

**FRIDAY**  
DISCO with JOE DEPARI  
(8pm - 2am)

**SATURDAY**  
DISCO with BRYAN MELANSON  
(8pm - 2am)

**SUNDAY**  
FREE BUFFET  
Patti O'Keefe in the Lounge  
(3-7pm)  
DISCO with JOE DEPARI  
(7pm - 1am)

WATCH FOR ENTERTAINMENT . . .



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# POETRY

Reviewed by Rudy Kikel

## LOLA

Excerpts from the Notebooks of an Angelophile.  
By Wayne McNeill.

8 pp. Scarborough, Ont.: Catalyst Press.

If you refer in your poem to the young number you hunker for as "chicken," you have merely the barnyard or the soup to draw on for imagery; if you call him — or her — an angel you have the whole universe. Allen Ginsberg discovered as much in *Howl*, wherein he wrote about "angel-headed hipsters burning for the ancient heavenly connection to the starry dynamo in the machinery of the night. . . ." Chief angel for Ginsberg was Neal Cassady, "secret hero of these poems, cocksman and Adonis of Denver."

There is what amounts to a small but venerable tradition of angel poems in the literature of the gay male. Ian Young, Winston Leyland, and Dennis Cooper are hardened angelophiles who come to mind: Young for his poems on the theme and the anthology of poetry about angels he had hoped to compile;

Leyland for his anthology of gay male poetry *Angels of the Lyre*; and Cooper as the new poet par excellence of the blond angels of — where else — Los Angeles. Wayne McNeill, who we are told in the notes to *Little Caesar 2* was "kidnapped by Ian Young at the age of 17 & forced to write poems," is a persistent contributor to the tradition: his last chapbook, issued in 1975 by Catalyst, was called *Angels Have No Hearts*.

Angelophilia, of course, represents an enormous sentimentality; within the pages of the chapbook at hand, McNeill succumbs to the emotional ailment even as he zeroes in upon it: "Poets tend to believe that all lovers are angels. This is known as *sentimentality*. Did you look for those perfect eyebrows? Those perfect wrists?" No one is, after all, an angel; it maybe only when we wish to cultivate The Big Experiences, amorous ecstasy or agony, that we allow ourselves the luxury, that we inflict on our partners the violence of this particular projected fantasy.

*Lola* records an old addiction: "I have never met an angel named David. I make no harsh judgments. If there is an angel out there named David (or

God help me, even Dave), please contact me at once." But if McNeill is to be commended for his new chapbook, it is for his attempts to protect himself from his own bathos. This he does in collusion with others who have shared the affliction (Strato, Rimbaud, Lorca, Sandro Penna among others are invoked in places) and by means of a cultivated ironic detachment: in tone, some of McNeill's aphorisms on angels ("angels are bothered by the four-letter word/but obsessed with the four-minute love affair") call for comparison with Fran Lebowitz's "notes" on trick.

"My angel obsession has now reached its limit," the author has confided in a letter to this reviewer. Would that each of ours had.

from our remaining faithful to the poet's own "error of inwardness." Everything seems allowed into this poetry — "quodlibets, digressions, jokes," a gallery of satirical portraits, a recipe for bread pudding, cranky debates on church music and language — because the poet's big secret, the basis for his new faith, is that "grace and the fancy are one." The foils of fancy, on the other hand, are "the mystery cult of conformity," Freudian therapy, and nature-denying religion, particularly that of Rome, with, as the poet calls them, its "delusive pretensions." Like Byron's *Don Juan*, then, *In and Out* is a celebration of instinct and an attack on the cant that would defeat it.

Instinct is defeated in at least one instance, in the tragic conclusion of the "story" — if not of the poem itself, which ends with Hyacinth, his affair with the narrator discovered by his father, is forced into therapy and "cured"; he gets married, becomes the father of three — and a suicide. In the failure of his own "therapy," Hine sees his salvation:

*While I talked to the shrink, I refused to be shrunk, and one satisfactory session suggested my psyche was sanforized. Hyacinth's wasn't. . . . Our alternatives are, to conform or survive, through conformity — never a major temptation of mine — may be sometimes prescribed as the sine qua non of survival, for some of us it isn't so; unregenerate nature will take an unsubtle revenge. The acceptable life is a fatal and frivolous masquerade.*

As opposed to "respectable death," *In and Out* urges a "vital disreputability," such as its author has found in a gayness affirmed.

Available c/o Poetry, 1228 N. Dearborn Parkway, Chicago, Ill. 60610.

## IN AND OUT

A Confessional Poem.

By Daryl Hine.

211 pp. Chicago: \$10.00.

The hero of Daryl Hine's *In and Out*, a 211 page autobiographical poem to anapestic trimeter, recoils from a first frustrating homosexual liaison by becoming ascetic, converting to Catholicism, and spending the spring and summer after his conversion in a "militant flop house" and a monastic novitiate. Thereafter, he meets and falls in love with Hyacinth Stein (Anthony Stern, that is, to who some other of Hine's books have been dedicated) and, listening to Handel's *Messiah*, awakens "as it were from a dream . . . suddenly free/ to dispense with the Catholic Crutch." The pleasures and sometimes the pain of reading *In and Out* come not in our following its plot, however, but in our pursuance of the poet's own "path of distraction,"



Craig Russell, Hollis McLaren, and Richard Benner

Craig Russell

The Orson Welles Cinema celebrated the anniversary of the opening of *Outrageous* at a party at the cinema complex in Cambridge, Mass. last week. Stars of the film Craig Russell and Hollis McLaren were in attendance, as was the film's writer/director Richard Benner. *Outrageous* has become the top moneymaking film ever at the Orson Welles Cinema.

# Andrew R. Weiss

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# FILM

## Matlovich Affair — Everyone Loses

### Sergeant Matlovich Vs. the U.S. Air Force

Directed by Paul Leaf.  
Televised nationally on Aug. 21, on NBC.

Reviewed by Robert Etherington

Well, yes, it was nice of commercial television to take note of *l'affaire Matlovich*, one of the more sensational gay rights actions of recent years. But *Sergeant Matlovich vs. the U.S. Air Force* is so dull that I almost wish Hollywood had ignored the case entirely. Granted, Leonard Matlovich himself, for all his courage in challenging the rampant homophobia in the Air Force, is not the most charismatic of people. But surely he is less of a bore than actor Brad Dourif and those who wrote his lines would have us believe. The teleplay's *Sergeant Matlovich* is so mousy that it is nothing short of amazing that he finds the energy merely to get out of bed in the morning, never mind to fight against the whole of the military establishment.

But then, *Sergeant Matlovich* was produced by Tomorrow Entertainment, Inc., which has brought us in recent years such Dramas for Solemn Liberals as *Judge Horton and the Scottsboro Boys*, a dramatically immobile examination of another sensational courtroom case. Apparently, Tomorrow Entertainment is determined to reduce the more interesting moments in American jurisprudence to the level of tired soap opera.

For tired *Sergeant Matlovich* certainly is with cliched characters, clunky dialogue and lackluster direction, all evidently concocted to prove to whatever audience there may be for such dreariness that the cause of gay rights is the dullest struggle imaginable.

The drama — or rather, non-drama

— centers around Matlovich's court-martial at Langley Air Force Base in 1975. (For those with short memories, the gay Matlovich deliberately provoked a court martial by coming out to his superiors. His hope, a vain one, was to compel the Air Force to revise its primitive regulations concerning the treatment of homosexuals.) Interspersed throughout the courtroom scenes are innumerable flashbacks illustrating, more or less, various aspects of Matlovich's life, principally how he came to terms with his homosexuality. Inevitable and omnipresent though they seem to be, flashbacks can be extremely tiresome, particularly when there are so many of them; they tend to disrupt the plot line and are often clumsy devices for writers or directors to present material they haven't the imagination to integrate into the main narrative. Certainly the *Sergeant Matlovich* flashbacks are more than usually unsuccessful in that they ultimately show us far too little of Matlovich's early life. His parents are occasionally whisked in and out, Mother teary, Father taciturn, leaving us with no real sense of what Matlovich's upbringing was really like. The Vietnam scenes, with Matlovich as a guing-ho soldier determined to prove his manliness, are perfunctory.

And the long process whereby Matlovich recognizes himself as a homosexual is handled far too antiseptically. There are a (very) few gay bar scenes (though the bars look like none I've ever seen) and we meet a (very) few gay people. But we never, EVER see Matlovich have sex with anyone at all. Indeed, he isn't allowed to so much as look lustfully, even at the beautiful actor Marc Singer, who plays Jason, Matlovich's best friend. Is Matlovich infatuated with Jason, at least to some degree? Common sense would lead us to say yes. But the teleplay relentlessly avoids



Brad Dourif as Matlovich

the whole question. Matlovich's coming out thus becomes a most unexciting enterprise.

And how or why did Matlovich decide to embrace gay activism and reveal himself to his superiors? The script here provides a seriously falsified answer. The real Leonard Matlovich reached his decision in consultation with several gay activists, principally Frank Kameny. Yet not one gay activist appears in *Sergeant Matlovich*. Apparently the writers would have us believe Matlovich thought and acted in a political vacuum.

To the insult of clumsy and

inaccurate flashbacks is added the injury of cardboard characters, among them a Sympathetic Priest, a worn-out role even when Spencer Tracy played it in *Boys' Town* 40 years ago. In *Sergeant Matlovich*, our hero, while in Vietnam, tremulously consults one Father Veller, played by the sadly miscast William Daniels, a usually competent actor. Fr. Veller is a remarkably platitudinous man, given to delivering such clunkers as, "Men behave strangely," and, "We are all God's creatures." Were people actually paid to write such lines?

Even Matlovich himself, though the central character, emerges as not much more than a cipher. Actor Brad Dourif can think of little more to do besides look plaintive and punctuate his lines with what are supposed to be, I assume, pregnant pauses, though I found myself suspecting that Dourif simply forgot his lines — not that that would be surprising; they are enormously forgettable.

Why must homosexual characters always be so severe and sexless when appearing on television? Many, many years ago, gays both on stage and screen were allowed to be bitchy and funny; they frequently had all the best lines. But today, apparently, homosexuals are supposed to be handled "delicately" or "seriously", as in *Sergeant Matlovich vs. the U.S. Air Force*. Of course, the mere presence of *Sergeant Matlovich* on commercial television represents, I suppose, some kind of progress for gay people. But is our age that much of an improvement over those times when queens didn't have to be so damn solemn?

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**Page 2: The Sexually Active Male**  
Careful washing after sex will reduce the possibility of catching VD.

The germs that cause syphilis and gonorrhea, as well as some other sexually transmitted diseases, are sensitive to soap and water. Wash before sex for hygienic purposes.

**Immediately After Intercourse:**

Soap genitals working a bit of soft mushy soap into urinary opening. Rinse. Repeat procedure. Then urinate (which may sting). Extended exposure or delay before washing diminishes the effectiveness of this preventive measure.

Washing is doubly important since even in the absence of VD, other sexually transmitted germs can cause infections such as NGU (non-gonococcal urethritis) or NSU (non-specific urethritis).

If lubricants are involved in the sex act, use water-soluble preparations that will wash away. Do not use an oil base that can leave a film to trap germs.

**Note:** The foreskin that covers the head of the penis may trap germs which can cause infections. Therefore, special attention should be given to washing the uncircumcized penis.

With the development of vaccines against gonorrhea and syphilis, personal hygiene remains necessary to prevent other sexually transmitted diseases. For example: a gonorrhea vaccine will not prevent approximately half of the reported cases of male urethritis which are not gonorrhea.

**Page 3: Some Aspects of Personal Hygiene for Male and Female**

Some infectious germs which are commonly found in the lower digestive tract may be transmitted from the rectum during certain sex activities. Also present may be parasites which cause gastro-intestinal disorders if swallowed (anal-oral route).

The mucous membranes of the genitourinary system are highly susceptible to infection by some of these germs from the rectum. For example: As a result of careless cleansing from rectum toward vagina by the female after toilet, germs are easily spread to the vagina where they may cause infections, and from which they may be transmitted during vaginal, as well as rectal, intercourse. Therefore, females must not cleanse in the direction of rectum to vagina.

Today it is considered that excessive douching may disturb the chemical balance of the vagina. Frequency and content should be discussed with a physician.

Personal hygiene before and after sex can be greatly aided by the bidet, a low bathroom fixture, designed to facilitate washing for disease prevention and proper cleansing after toilet. The American public, unfortunately, has never been adequately informed as to the advantages of the bidet, and it is not found in homes or hotels in the United States, whereas in many parts of the world it is widely used and significant to personal hygiene. Good hygiene requires careful washing of genital and rectal areas before and after sex.

**Men & Women:** This is only the beginning of the vital information contained in our widely acclaimed booklet. Learn also about:

The significance, during treatment, of no alcohol or sex activity which may irritate the GU system, delaying cure.

The importance of a follow-up visit to the physician to see if further treatment is required.

For the sexually active male—the commercially available germicidal preparation (Sanitube\*) for use after intercourse to prevent gonorrhea and syphilis.

For the sexually active female—certain commercially available vaginal contraceptive foams, creams, suppositories and jellies, which also have germicidal properties that may prevent VD.

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## FILM

# Maybe Not the Best . . .

### THE BEST WAY

Directed by Claude Miller  
With Patrick Bouchitey, Patrick Dewaere, and Christine Pascal:  
France, 1975.

Reviewed by Jeff Ruda

*The Best Way* is a charming disappointment. It is full of marvelous bits of scenography and acting, strung together on a story line which was never quite thought through to coherence. Director Claude Miller was formerly an assistant to the outstanding director Francois Truffaut, and his film is still the work of an excellent assistant — someone with real mastery of basic cinema technique but without the intellectual maturity to make an independent statement.

The story deals with two counselors at a boys' summer camp outside Paris. Philippe (Patrick Bouchitey), the son of the camp's stuffy and pretentious director, is dark, trim, and slender, bookish, and the camp's dramatics counselor.

Marc (Patrick Dewaere) is blond, stocky, outdoorsy, and top athlete on the staff. Their problems begin during a power failure late one night when Marc, in search of candles, bursts into Philippe's room and finds him in full drag (he looks like Audrey Hepburn). Marc pretends nothing has happened, but Philippe develops a virtual paranoia about everything Marc says or does and treats him accordingly. Marc responds by living up to Philippe's expectations, provoking a touch of violence.

The counterplay of two such characters as Philippe and Marc has been literary stock-in-trade since Thomas Mann's novella *Tonio Kroger*, with far earlier antecedents. Miller updates the concept with the 1970s fashion for stories of sexual tension and violence between men, while his 1960, pre-“liberation” setting makes it reasonable that Philippe and Marc have difficulty articulating their sexuality. But Miller gets into trouble trying to combine the moody poeticism of Truffaut's film style with inarticulate characters. There is scant



Summer Camp scene from *The Best Way*

evidence for complexity of feeling, especially in Marc. Miller never clarifies what seems to be a simple-minded equation of transvestism with homosexuality, and we never see beneath the surface of Philippe's accusations that Marc is actually the more repressed of the two. For want of a deeper explanation, their hostilities become repetitious rather than building toward the climax. The climax itself is rather hard to believe.

The film is basically discursive, because Miller over-indulged in pretty detail and tricky cutting while he skimped on character development. The supporting roles are very well played, as far as they go. Philippe's girlfriend Chantal (Christine Pascal) whose Sunday visits make her the only female personality in the film, is an important character. Her persistent attachment to Philippe after his sexual failure with her, to the extent of partisanship with him against Marc, make her by far the film's most original character; yet she gets only one slight chance to speak of her own motivation. The other characters are grotesques, though believable and funny. There are many amusing vignettes of camp life which contribute little to the main theme beyond some

variety of sexual innuendo. The boys, seen largely collectively, are filmed with affection and humor. Marc's group is always marching along to the camp song, “The Best Way of Walking is Our Way,” while the visible misfits are in Philippe's unit and provide facile metaphors of the adults' problems.

Trying to depict sexual repression delicately, Claude Miller achieves only ambiguity and a story line which gradually loses plausibility. *The Best Way* is easy to enjoy but not to take as seriously as its narrative drama would urge.

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The Fenway Community Health Center needs volunteers: 1) laboratory assistant to work gay health night, Wednesdays, 6:30-10pm at the Health Center. 2) Nurses, doctors, medical students to work: Mon or Wed eves 6:30-10pm at the Health Center; every other Saturday 5 to midnight to draw blood for syphilis and culture for gonorrhea on the Bridge. Medical Van at the bars; one night a month at the baths testing for gonorrhea & syphilis. 3) People with clerical skills to do mailings, typing, filing, etc. Please call 267-7573 and ask for Ron Vachon.

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Young white male would like pen pal and possible friendship. I'm new to gay society, seek others to help. Must be sincere and honest and want true friendship. Please include a picture & phone number, if possible. GCN Box 940. (10)

## PRISONERS

We get many requests from gays in prison to put pen pal ads in for them. Limited space prevents us from printing as many of these ads as we would like to, since the prisoners do not have the funds to pay for their ads. We will print more if anyone out there is willing to contribute. For each \$3 we receive we can print one more pen pal ad. Send checks to Penpals, GCN Box k92. (c)

Libra, likes writing lyrics, chess, softball and other sports, music. Would like to correspond with creative person. Eddie G. Bowles 058147, V-3-N-5, P.O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091. (7)

Lonely, needs correspondence. Dana Richard Walnight 022037, 22-1107, P.O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091. (7)

Lonely, want friends. Reggie Riggins 144-548, P.O. Box 511, Columbia, OH 43216. (7)

## ORGANIZATIONS

**AFFIRMATION**  
For United Methodist Lesbian & Gay Male Concerns — New England Chapter. For information and/or support reply GCN Box 902. (47)

**SUPPORT LESBIAN MOTHERS'**  
Lesbian Mothers National Defense Fund, 2446 Lorentz Place, W. Seattle, WA 98109. (206) 282-5798. Membership \$5.00.

**BOSTON UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST GAYS AND LESBIANS (BUUGL)**, an inclusive group of religious liberals working to provide opportunities for community building among lesbians and gay men, meets every Sunday evening at the Arlington St. Church, 355 Boylston St., at 7:00 pm. Lesbians especially welcome. For more info call Bob Wheatley at 742-2100. (D49)

**AM TIKVA BOSTON GAY JEWS** invites you to weekly Friday night service and social with hamish group of lesbians and gays. Contact P.O. Box 11, Cambridge, MA 02138. 353-1821; 524-1890. (7)

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Metropolitan Community Church of Boston, services each Sunday at 7:00 p.m. (hymn sing 6:45), 131 Cambridge St., Boston (Old West Church). Edward T. Hougen, pastor. Office 523-7664. All persons are welcome.

## PUBLICATIONS

**GAY SCENE** — The Picture Homophile Monthly in 8th Year of Publication. News From Everywhere; Movement News; King's Reviews (Stage, Screen, Book & T.V.); D.D.'s Best Bets; Lesbian Life; Articles; Nude Plaything of the Month; Religious News; Personals; and More. Send \$1 for sample copy. \$8.00 for 12 issues (in Plain Envelope) To: REGIMENT, Box 247, Grand Cent. Sta., NYC 10017.

## GAIA'S GUIDE-1979.

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**FOCUS**, journal for gay women, needs, contributors. If you write short fiction, essays of interest to lesbians, or poetry, please send it to FOCUS, C/O DOB, 1151 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138. There is no payment, but it is fun to see your work in print, and you do get free copies of the issues in which your work is published. Include SASE for return of material not accepted for publication. (c)

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## BOSTON BAR GUIDE

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252 Boylston St. 247-9308

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39 Boylston St. 338-7159

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### 119 MERRIMAC

119 Merrimac St. 523-8960

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### SOMEWHERE

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### SPORTER'S CAFE

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### STYX

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### THE SHED

272 Huntington Ave.

Leather, Men, Sunday Brunch 4PM.

### TOGETHER

110 Boylston St.

Disco Dancing, Mixed.

### 1270

1270 Boylston St. 261-1257

Disco Dancing, Mixed (Mostly Men).

### TWELVE CARVER

12 Carver St.

Men:

8:30pm — Gay A.A. meeting, 150 Beacon St., 2nd floor.

8:30pm — Berkshire Community Gay Coalition meets at 175 Wendell Ave., Pittsfield, MA. Call (617) 442-9450, M-Th eves.

8:30pm — Alcoholics Together, Our Lady of Victory Church, Isabella St., Boston.

9:12pm — GAY coffeehouse, Hendrie Hall basement, 165 Elm St., New Haven, CT.

### SATURDAYS

2pm — Project Lambda Rap session for gay teenagers, 70 Charles St., Boston.

3-6pm — Gay folk dancing for women and men, Peabody room, 3rd floor, Phillips Brooks House (north end of Harvard Yard). Call Eric (617) 776-6377.

### SUNDAYS

9am — Closet Space 740AM with Lisa Schwartz and Joe Martin (Boston)

11am — Church of the Beloved Disciple, 348 West 14th St., NYC.

1-2:30pm — GRAC swimming, Lindemann Ctr, Staniford St., across from Longfellow Towers

2pm — Church of the Beloved Disciple, 348 West 14th St., NYC.

2:30pm — MCC/Worcester service, Central Cong. Church, 6 Institute Rd., Worcester.

3-6pm — Gay A.A. meeting, Old West Church (side door), 131 Cambridge St.

4-6pm — Gay Women's Group of Providence rap. (401) 831-5184.

5pm — Non-competitive women's softball game, Magazine Beach (on Charles River near Stop & Shop, 10 blocks south of Central Sq.).

5pm — Dignity/Integrity Mass, St. Luke's Church, 17 S. Fitzhugh St., Rochester, NY.

5pm — MCC/Boston Bible study group, 131 Cambridge St., 523-7664.

5:30pm — Exodus Mass, Arlington St. Church, Boylston St. entrance, Boston.

6:30pm — Dignity service, Arlington St. Church, Boylston St. entrance, Boston.

6:30pm — Gay Church services, 23 Franklin St., Bangor, ME.

7pm — Church of the Beloved Disciple, 348 West 14th St., NYC.

# CALENDAR

**The deadline for Calendar Items is Wednesday at noon for the following issue.**

## 3 sun

**Cambridge, MA** — Closet Space (WCAS 740 AM) Gay Parents/Gay Kids, first of a two part series. 9am.

## 5 tues

**NYC** — Autumn Leaves Fall Social and Dance for gay women at the Triangle Gay Community Center, 28 Ninth Ave. at 14th St. Wine and cheese. Donation \$3.00.

**Boston** — The Gey Speakers Bureau will present a slide/tape entitled "Straight Talk About Lesbians" at 7:15pm in the Rebb Lecture Hall at the Boston Public Library, Copley Sq. The presentation is free and open to the public. For more info call 354-0133.

## 7 thurs

**Cambridge, MA** — Follow-up meeting for all those who attended the "Take Back the Night" march and rally, and are interested in following through on the original demands and coalescing work around violence against women. 7:30pm at the Cambridge Women's Center, 48 Pleasant St.

## 8 fri

**Boston** — Allegro Productions presents Izquierdo, a women's lyrical, jazz, latin and blues group from Portland, Ore. 8pm at Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St. Free childcare. Wheelies welcome. Suggested donation \$3.50.

**Amherst, MA** — Author John Stoltenberg speaks on "Rapist Ethics," West Lecture Hall, Franklin Patterson Hall, Hampshire College, 4pm.

**Storrs, CT** — The University of Connecticut Gey Alliance is sponsoring a Disco at 9pm. This BYOB event will be held at the Werming Hut on the Storrs campus. All are welcome.

## 9 sat

**Baltimore, MD** — Maryland Gay Rights Coalition meeting, 8pm at the Gay Community Center. Preliminary strategy for the soon-to-be-introduced Baltimore City Gay Rights Ordinance to be discussed. All interested women and men are urged to get involved. For more info call 837-3755.

**Cambridge, MA** — Alix Dobin in concert at Amerenith, 134 Hampshire St. 7:30 end 9:30pm. Tickets \$3 on sale beginning Aug. 29. Workshop/open house with Alix the following day, time to be announced.

**Boston** — Dignity/Boston will be having a flea market at Arlington St. Church from 10am to 4pm. Proceeds to benefit Dignity.

## 10 sun

**Flushing, NY** — Second Annual All the Queens Women Street Fair, 12 to 5pm. Booths available, donations welcome. Cell Lots or Merylon on Sundays, 12:30 to 3:30pm at (212) 359-9204.

**Boston** — Cleerspace will be having a Steering Committee meeting at 3pm. For more info call 646-8598.

**Cambridge, MA** — Closet Space (WCAS 740 AM) Gay Perspectives on the September Primary; GCN Political Columnist David Brill and MCGL Coordinator David Drolet. 9am.

**Boston** — Benefit for the Lesbian and Gay Parents Project at Somewhere, 295 Franklin St., 3pm. Music, disco dancing, raffle for fabulous prizes. \$3 donation requested. Let's open this center.

**Boston** — The Little Flags Theatre will present *The Furies of Mother Jones*, a play depicting the great woman labor organizer, Mother Jones. Morse Auditorium, 602 Commonwealth Ave. at 7 and 9:30pm. For more info call 734-2154.

**Boston** — Unitarian Universalist Gays and Lesbians will hold their first fall meeting, 355 Boylston St., at 7pm. All are welcome.

## 11 mon

**Medford, MA** — Registration begins for the Women's Community School. Class offerings range from auto mechanics to yoga. Free scholarships and childcare are available. For more info and a brochure write The Women's Community School, c/o The Women's Center, Tufts University, Medford, MA 02155 or call 628-5000, ext. 702.

## 12 tues

**Cambridge, MA** — Gay Folk Dancing, 6:30-10pm. 3rd floor, Phillips Brooks House, all are invited.

**NYC** — The West Side Discussion Group, 26 Ninth Ave., presents a fall fashion show for women and men by Edward Rulinski.

**Boston** — 8:30pm, GCN political writer David Brill gives a pre-election run-down on Gey Wey, WBUR-FM 90.9.

## 14 thurs

**Boston** — Clearspace presents "Living as a Lesbian Woman" Part I. Call Marty at 646-8598 for more info.

## 16 sat

**Boston** — Gay mountain climb through the Penigwasset wilderness to Zealand Falls. Overnight. By reservation only. All are welcome. For more info call 245-4667.

**Boston** — Clearspace presents the "Last Rose of Summer" dance for men. Free admission. For more info call 227-4327.

**Los Angeles** — The Third Women and Alternative Life Styles Conference presented by the Sexuality and Lesblinism Task Force and Los Angeles NOW, 9am to 5:30pm. For more information write Los Angeles NOW, 8363 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 310, Los Angeles, CA 90048.

## 17 sun

**Babylon, NY** — The monthly meeting of the New Coalition for Human Rights of Long Island will take place at the Mark V Lounge, Lake Ronkonkoma, at 8pm. A benefit will follow at 11pm. \$3 donation. For more info call (516) 665-7373.

## 19 tues

**MA** — Today is Primary Election Day in Massachusetts and many other states. Vote!

## 21 thurs

**NYC** — The West Side Discussion Group, 26 Ninth Ave., will present "Masturbation for Fun and Profit," exploring the therapeutic values and pleasures, myths and superstitions of masturbation. For men and women.

## 23 sat

**Philadelphia** — Daniel Berrigan, who gained fame as an antiwar activist, will speak on "Religion and Gay Civil Rights" at a lecture sponsored by Dignity. The lecture will be at 3pm at the Christian Association, 36th St. and Locust Walk, on the University of Pennsylvania campus. Free admission.

**Boston** — Gay and Lesbian Associates and Defenders, Inc. (GLAD), a legal defense fund for gey people, will meet at 1pm at Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St. The Board of Directors will be elected at this meeting.

**Cambridge, MA** — The Women's Community Health Center is sponsoring its Fifth Annual Women's Health Weekend in cooperation with the Cambridge YWCA, to be held on the 23rd and 24th. There will be workshops, panels, and screening around women's health issues. For more info call 547-2302.

**San Francisco** — A forum for the first large-scale exchange of litigation strategies in the area of gay rights has been announced by the Gey Students Association at Hastings College of Law, co-sponsored by the American Bar Association Law Student Division. For more information contact Mike Hell at (415) 861-7080.

## 24 sun

**Bloomsburg, PA** — An ensemble of gay and other Human Rights organizations will gather at Town Park at 2pm to rally to protest the appearance of Anita Bryant at the Bloomsburg Fair.

## 28 thurs

**Boston** — The MCC Gay Deaf Club is having their third meeting. New members welcome. This is not a sign language class. Held at Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St. at 9pm.

## 29 fri

**Boston** — Clearspace presents the Men's Pot Luck Supper. Come enjoy and meet new friends. To be held at 103 Charles St. at 6:30pm, followed by a 7:30pm card game. For more info call 227-4327.



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